



## WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

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### JOINT LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL MINUTES

Room 412 East, State Capitol  
Madison, Wisconsin

April 24, 2002

9:00 a.m. – 9:35 a.m.

[The following is a summary of the April 24, 2002 meeting of the Joint Legislative Council. The file copy of this summary has appended to it a copy of each document prepared for or submitted to the committee during the meeting and a copy of the registration form listing those who attended. A digital recording of the meeting is available on our Web site at <http://www.legis.state.wi.us/lc/2000studies.htm>.]

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#### Call to Order and Roll Call

Co-Chair Risser called the meeting to order. He began by explaining that the focus of this meeting was to discuss the suggested initial study topics that he and Co-Chair Rhoades had selected based on the members' comments at the March 6 Joint Legislative Council meeting.

Due to budget reductions, Co-Chair Risser said that the Council is faced with an additional task of doing this year's study program with less money. The current fiscal concerns will force conducting fewer and smaller committees. In addition, full-day meetings will be necessary for the committees to make the most of limited resources.

He noted that the initial group of proposed topics are at the members' places for discussion. He said that it is the Co-Chairs' intent that after this meeting and evaluating the members' opinion survey form they are being asked to fill out, he and Co-Chair Rhoades would be meeting to construct final recommendations.

He asked that the roll be called and noted that a quorum was present.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS  
PRESENT: Sen. Fred A. Risser and Rep. Kitty Rhoades, Co-Chairs; Sens. James Baumgart, Charles Chvala, Alberta Darling, Richard Grobschmidt, Mary Panzer and Judy Robson; and Reps. Spencer Black, Peter Bock, Steven Foti, Stephen Freese, Gregory Huber, Scott R. Jensen, Michael Lehman, Lee Meyerhofer and Jeff Stone.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS  
EXCUSED: Sens. Brian Burke, Gary George, Robert Welch and David Zien; and Rep. John Gard.

COUNCIL STAFF PRESENT: Terry C. Anderson, Director; Laura Rose, Deputy Director, Robert J. Conlin, Don Dyke, David Lovell, Mary Matthias, Kelly Mautz, Mary Offerdahl, Mark Patronskey, Don Salm, Anne Sappenfield, Ronald Sklansky, John Stolzenberg, Richard Sweet and Wendy Ulrich, Legislative Council staff.

### **Approval of the Minutes of the Committee's March 6, 2002 Meeting**

*It was moved by Rep. Freese, seconded by Sen. Baumgart, that the minutes of the March 6, 2002 meeting be approved. The motion was adopted by unanimous consent.*

### **Review of Suggested Initial Study Topics**

Co-Chair Risser noted that Legislative Council staff was present to answer any questions Council members may have on the 13 study proposals presented to them. He directed the members' attention to an opinion poll at their places that he and Co-Chair Rhoades ask they fill out before leaving the meeting. Next, he suggested that they take up the proposed studies one-by-one.

Speaker Jensen questioned why there were three to four recodifications among the 13 study proposals when in the past there were usually only one or two. Terry Anderson, Director, Legislative Council, responded that because these are existing laws that need updating, the Legislative Council staff feels they could handle a few more this interim period since budget restrictions are resulting in fewer and smaller-sized committees. Recodifications typically do not require as many members than other study committees. Representative Lehman responded by saying that it may be time committees conducting recodifications should include new techniques.

Representative Freese suggested that for the study committee reviewing the fireworks law, the interaction between state and federal law should include other states, particularly the states surrounding Wisconsin. Senator Grobschmidt said that he would also like the fire service community included in this study.

Regarding the study on the recodification of public utility laws, Representative Lehman said he would like the committee to look at independent producers of renewable energy and be more specific on item (4) relative to "filling gaps in specific substantive areas where the law is silent." John Stolzenberg,

Chief of Research Services, responded that because this is a recodification, the committee would be dealing with the existing statutes, not making additions.

Representative Stone noted that he would like “public health emergency” clarified by the proposed study committee on the public health system’s response to terrorism and other public health emergencies. [Note: The budget bill does contain a definition for the phrase “public health emergency.”]

Other than a few suggestions for serving as members on the committees discussed, the Council members had no objections or further suggestions to any of the remaining study topics.

### **Other Business**

Co-Chair Rhoades distributed a letter from Diane D. Wetzstein, Wisconsin Schools Clean Air Coalition, requesting that the Joint Legislative Council establish a committee on “School Indoor Air Quality.” The Council members did not express an interest to study this at this time.

Co-Chair Risser informed the members that he and Co-Chair Rhoades have asked the Legislative Council staff to write information memorandums on two topics that had been suggested for studies: (1) review of the laws concerning the sale of surplus state property; and (2) review of planning laws, departmental regulations and the current Main Street Program. He said that these memorandums would be completed this fall and distributed to all legislators. He also mentioned that the Legislative Council staff is also looking at other study requests that may not have warranted a study committee this interim, but do deserve some sort of action.

### **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 9:35 a.m.

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